

"Talk Back" between 1997 and 2000. On the show, Liz would hold on-the-air conversations with everyday residents, as well as local political figures.

One of Liz's most cherished accomplishments is to have served as the first female Mayor of Sonora between 2000 and 2002. Liz stepped down from the City Council, when she was elected to the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors in 2004. In 2002, she was recognized for her service on the City Council with the Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce's "Excellence in Government Award."

Liz is leaving the Board of Supervisors after eight years of service as the District 1 Supervisor. During her time on the Board, Supervisor Bass worked hard to bring civility to boardroom dialogue; champion issues related to youth, seniors and affordable housing; privatize Tuolumne General Hospital; support recreation, library and behavioral health services; push for reforms in the County's solid waste program; initiate and complete an overhaul of the Board's committee and commission system; and provide the political leadership needed to establish the first ever Tuolumne County Flag.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Tuolumne County Supervisor Liz Bass on her retirement and commending her exemplary service to the community as an educator, member of the Sonora City Council, and representative on the Board of Supervisors.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
MORRIS PETTUS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of my friend, Morris Pettus, for his unyielding service, accomplishment and leadership as a key member of my Congressional staff.

For nearly 10 years, Mr. Pettus worked with expertise, compassion and perseverance in addressing numerous issues of constituent concern. From veterans and military issues, to critical casts involving individuals in immediate crisis—he approached everyone who sought assistance with unwavering respect and dignity, working diligently to find a solution.

Mr. Pettus' concentration in the area of Veterans Services was invaluable to the citizens of northeast Ohio. As a liaison connecting veterans with local and Federal agencies, his work enabled thousands of veterans and active military members to find resolutions across a wide array of casework. Most significantly, Mr. Pettus' expertise and determination enabled countless veterans and their families to obtain crucial medical and disability benefits they rightfully earned and deserved.

Mr. Pettus quickly emerged as a trusted leader in my Congressional office. His positive energy, strong work ethic, insightful nature and wonderful sense of humor easily drew staff members to him, and he cultivated not only dynamic working partnerships, but lifelong friendships with his Congressional Staff colleagues.

His ability to connect with others extended outside the District Office, where he effectively represented me at numerous events, forming

vital bonds with community leaders throughout northeast Ohio. Everyone from colleagues to Members and leaders within our Cleveland community consistently sought his collaboration, ideas and advice. His influence upon all of our lives is immeasurable.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Morris Pettus, whose service as a member of my Congressional staff reinforced and advanced my work as a United States Congressman. His ability to tackle difficult cases on behalf of countless citizens, especially our veterans, served to empower, uplift and renew their lives. His service, framed by integrity and heart, will forever impact our entire community.

TOWN OF SHARON ADOPTS RESOLUTION TO PROTECT DEMOCRACY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the Town of Sharon, MA adopted a resolution calling on us to adopt a Constitutional amendment that would protect in the Constitution two important principles that have recently been undermined by narrow majorities in the Supreme Court. The Town of Sharon asks us to make it clear in the Constitution that only human beings and not corporations are to be given the rights of citizenship, and that unlimited election spending is not free speech, but rather a threat to democracy.

Mr. Speaker, it is particularly appropriate that the Town Meeting in Sharon, a very democratic forum of government, adopted these two principles in this resolution and asked us to put them into the Constitution because they are both important for the protection of our democracy. I submit the resolution from the Town Meeting of Sharon.

TOWN CLERK

Sharon, MA, December 3, 2012.

Article 10.

Voted: That the Town adopt the following resolution: To call upon the United States Congress to pass and send to the States for ratification an amendment to the Constitution of the United States that would firmly establish two principles:

1) Only human beings, not artificial entities such as corporations, are entitled to the rights and privileges guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.

2) Election spending is not free speech guaranteed by the First Amendment, and is therefore subject to regulation by federal and state governments.

A True Copy.

Attest:

MARLENE B. CHUSED,
Sharon Town Clerk.

IN HONOR OF DR. YVONNE
KENNEDY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay trib-

ute to an outstanding educator and public servant, Dr. Yvonne Kennedy. Sadly, Dr. Kennedy passed away on Saturday, December 8, 2012. A number of tribute events will be held in Mobile, Alabama starting December 14, 2012 and culminating with a State Funeral on Saturday, December 15 at 11:00 a.m. at the Mobile Convention Center.

Dr. Yvonne Kennedy was born on January 8, 1945. A Mobile, Alabama native, she and I were schoolmates in high school. She received an Associate's degree from S.D. Bishop State Junior College, a Bachelor's degree from Alabama State University and a Master's from Morgan State University. She also earned her Ph.D. from the University of Alabama and was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Letters from Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee.

Dr. Kennedy was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives in April 1979, representing the 97th District in Mobile County. Dr. Kennedy was at the forefront of the fight against Alabama's voter ID law. She was also a strong advocate of extending voting rights to ex-felons in Alabama. She served as Ranking Minority Member of the Economic Development and Tourism and the Children and Senior Advocacy House Committees. She also served on the Transportation, Utilities and Infrastructure Committee.

Dr. Kennedy served as president of Bishop State Community College from 1981 to 2007. She was appointed as the second president after the passing of the first president, my father, Dr. Sanford D. Bishop, Sr., for whom the college was named. During her tenure, the college was expanded from one campus to three and dramatically broadened the curriculum.

After being initiated into Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in 1964 at Alabama State University, Dr. Kennedy served in several leadership positions from the local to the national level. She served as the sorority's 19th National President from 1988–1992. During her tenure as president of Delta, she launched SCHOOL AMERICA, a program to promote literacy issues. Under her leadership, Delta Sigma Theta completed the renovations of its national headquarters and made significant achievements in advancing its global impact.

Dr. Kennedy loved her community dearly, and in addition to representing it in the state legislature, she was actively involved within it. She served as Chairman of the Mobile County United Negro College Fund Campaign, Youth Director for the Board of Christian Education—Southeast Alabama Conference, and former Chairperson of the Alabama Legislative Black Caucus. She was also a member of the Board of the American Association for Higher Education and America's Junior Miss Scholarship Foundation, Inc., as well as a Trustee of Miles College in Fairfield, Alabama. She was a lifelong member of Stewart Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

On a more personal note, I first met Yvonne as a 12-year-old having to speak behind her on a Youth Day program at the Stone Street Baptist Church in Mobile. She wowed the congregation and made me determined never to follow her on a program again! While she matriculated at Bishop State Junior College, she was a student assistant in the President's Office. The President, my father, spoke often and proudly of her intellect, eloquence and leadership potential. While he died before she